

REMARKS

Claims 1-11 are pending in this application. Claim 11 was withdrawn from consideration. Claims 4, 5, and 10 were allowed. Claims 1-3 and 6 were rejected. Claims 7-9 were objected to. New claim 12, which is supported by the specification, has been added to further define the present invention. The Examiner's reconsideration of the rejection is respectfully requested in view of the above amendment and the following remarks.

Applicant gratefully acknowledges the Examiner's indication that claims 7-9 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 103:

Claims 1-3 and 6 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,587,393 to Ayukawa for the reasons stated on page 2 of the Office action.

The rejection is respectfully traversed.

Ayukawa discloses three different memory devices on a chip, i.e. SRAM, DRAM, and Flash memory. Ayukawa does not teach or suggest any memory banks. Applicant respectfully disagrees that each of the memory devices in Ayukawa equates to a memory bank. If the three memory devices are construed to form a memory bank, then the entire chip comprises a single memory bank and therefore there is no plurality of memory banks and "region between adjacent memory banks." It follows that there cannot be any "control pads and I/O pads disposed in a region between memory banks and in a

peripheral region surrounding the memory banks”, as essentially claimed in claims 1 and 6.

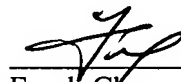
Accordingly, claims 1 and 6 are believed to be patently distinguished and not rendered obvious by Ayukawa. The Examiner’s reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Claims 2 and 3 depend from claim 1. The dependent claims are believed to be allowable due to their dependency on the allowable independent claim.

Conclusion

For the foregoing reasons, the present application, including claims 1-10, and 12, is believed to be in condition for allowance. The Examiner’s early and favorable action is respectfully requested. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned if he has any questions or comments in this matter.

Respectfully submitted,



Frank Chau
Reg. No. 34,136
Attorney for Applicant(s)

F. Chau & Associates, LLP
1900 Hempstead Turnpike
East Meadow, New York 11553
TEL: (516) 357-0091
FAX: (516) 357-0092

Attachments